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A FINITE PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINING IF A QUADRATIC FORM IS BOUND--ETC(U)  
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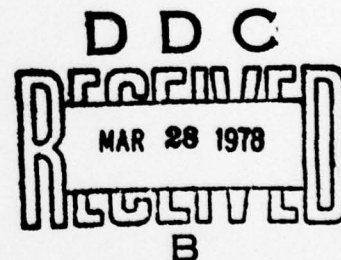
A FINITE PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINING IF A QUADRATIC FORM IS  
BOUNDED BELOW ON A CLOSED POLYHEDRAL CONVEX SET

TECHNICAL REPORT

B. CURTIS EAVES

AUGUST 16, 1977

DEPARTMENT OF OPERATIONS RESEARCH  
STANFORD UNIVERSITY  
STANFORD, CALIFORNIA



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Consider the quadratic program

$$(1) \quad \begin{cases} V \triangleq \inf_x & x \cdot Qx + x \cdot q \\ s/t: & Ax \leq a \quad x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

We describe a finite but inefficient procedure for determining the optimal objective value,  $V$ , of the program, and in particular, whether or not  $V$  is finite. This task was suggested to the author by David Gale.

Let  $Q$  be  $n \times n$ ,  $q$   $n \times 1$ ,  $A$   $m \times n$ , and  $a$   $m \times 1$ . We assume that the program is feasible. Define  $\mathcal{Q}(x)$  to be  $x \cdot Qx + x \cdot q$ . The expression  $x \cdot u$  indicates the inner product between  $x$  and  $u$ .

A Kuhn-Tucker point  $(u, v, x, y)$  of the program (1) is defined to be a solution to the system

$$(2) \quad \begin{cases} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} q \\ a \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} Q' & A^T \\ -A & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \\ (u, v, x, y) \geq 0 \quad u \cdot x = v \cdot y = 0 \end{cases}$$

where  $Q' = Q + Q^T$ . Of course, if  $(u, v, x, y)$  is a Kuhn-Tucker point, then  $x$  is a feasible solution to the program (1). On the other hand, if  $x$  is an optimal solution to the program (1), it can be shown that there is a Kuhn-Tucker point of form  $(u, v, x, y)$ .

To determine the value of  $V$  we shall need the following result from the folklore of quadratic programming.

Lemma 1: If  $(u,v,x,y)$  is a Kuhn-Tucker point of the program then

$$\mathcal{Q}(x) = (1/2) (x \cdot q - y \cdot a)$$

Proof: Using (2) we have  $0 = x \cdot q + x \cdot Q'x + x \cdot A^T y$ , and  $0 = y \cdot a - y \cdot Ax$ . Hence  $2x \cdot Qx + 2x \cdot q = x \cdot q - y \cdot a$   $\square$

Now for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  consider the programs

$$(3,k) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} v_k \triangleq \min_x \mathcal{Q}(x) \\ \\ \text{s/t: } Ax \leq a \quad x \geq 0 \quad ex \leq k \end{array} \right.$$

where  $e = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$ . For all sufficiently large  $k$  the program has a compact nonempty feasible region, and hence, has an optimal solution.

Clearly  $v_k \geq v_{k+1}$  and  $\lim v_k = V$  as  $k$  tends to infinity. A Kuhn-Tucker point  $(u, v, w, x, y, z)$  of the program  $(3, k)$  is a solution to the system

$$(4,k) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} q \\ a \\ k \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} Q' & A^T & e^T \\ -A & 0 & 0 \\ -e & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \\ (u,v,w,x,y,z) \geq 0 \quad u \cdot x = v \cdot y = w \cdot z = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

Let  $l = m+n+1$  and  $J$  be the set  $\{1, l+1\} \times \{2, l+2\} \times \dots \times \{l, l+l\}$ . Observe that for any nonnegative  $(u,v,w,x,y,z)$  in  $R^{2l}$  we have  $u \cdot x = v \cdot y = w \cdot z = 0$ , if and only if, for some  $\alpha$  in  $J$   $(u,v,w,x,y,z)_\alpha = 0$ , that is,  $(u,v,w,x,y,z)_i = 0$  for all  $i$  in  $\alpha$ .

For each  $\alpha$  in  $J$  and large  $k$  we consider the linear program

$$(5,\alpha,k) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} v_k^\alpha \triangleq \min: (1/2)(x \cdot q - y \cdot a - kz) \\ s/t: \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} q \\ a \\ k \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} Q' & A^T & e^T \\ -A & 0 & 0 \\ -e & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \\ (u,v,w,x,y,z) \geq 0 \\ (u,v,w,x,y,z)_\alpha = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

where the minimization is over the variables  $(u,v,w,x,y,z)$ . Note that if  $(u,v,w,x,y,z)$  is feasible for  $(5,\alpha,k)$ , then  $(u,v,w,x,y,z)$

solves (4,k) and is, consequently, a Kuhn-Tucker point of (3,k). Therefore, in view of Lemma 1, for any optimal solutions  $(u,v,w,x,y,z)$  to (5, $\alpha$ ,k) we have  $v_k^\alpha = \varphi(x)$ . For each  $\alpha$  the linear program (5, $\alpha$ ,k) is either feasible for all sufficiently large  $k$  or infeasible for all sufficiently large  $k$ ; let us partition  $J = J_F \cup J_I$  accordingly. Note that  $\alpha$  is in  $J_F$  if and only if the linear program

$$(6,\alpha) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{sup: } w + ez \\ \text{s/t: } \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} q \\ a \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} Q' & A^T & e^T \\ -A & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \\ \\ (u,v,w,x,y,z) \geq 0 \\ \\ (u,v,w,x,y,z)_\alpha = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

has an optimal objective value of  $+\infty$  where the maximization is over the variables  $(u,v,w,x,y,z)$ .

Assuming  $\alpha$  is in  $J_F$  we can use the simplex method treating  $k$  parametrically to generate in a finite number of steps

$$S^\alpha = (u_1^\alpha, v_1^\alpha, w_1^\alpha, x_1^\alpha, y_1^\alpha, z_1^\alpha)$$

$$T^\alpha = (u_2^\alpha, v_2^\alpha, w_2^\alpha, x_2^\alpha, y_2^\alpha, z_2^\alpha)$$

such that  $S^\alpha + kT^\alpha$  optimizes (5, $\alpha$ ,k) for all sufficiently large  $k$ .



Therefore  $S^\alpha + kT^\alpha$  is a Kuhn-Tucker point of  $(3,k)$  for all sufficiently large  $k$  and we have  $\mathcal{Q}(x_1^\alpha + kx_2^\alpha) = v_k^\alpha$ . Furthermore, given  $\alpha$  in  $J_F$  there is a fixed triple  $(C_1^\alpha, C_2^\alpha, C_3^\alpha)$  such that  $v_k^\alpha = \mathcal{Q}(x_1^\alpha + kx_2^\alpha) = C_1^\alpha k^2 + C_2^\alpha k + C_3^\alpha$  for all sufficiently large  $k$ .

Select  $\beta$  so as to lexicographically minimize  $(C_1^\beta, C_2^\beta, C_3^\beta)$  over all  $\alpha$  in  $J_F$ . Then  $v_k^\beta \leq v_k^\alpha$  for all  $\alpha$  in  $J_F$  and all sufficiently large  $k$ .

Lemma 2:  $v_k^\beta = v_k$  for all sufficiently large  $k$ .

Proof: Choose  $\bar{k}$  so that a) for all  $k \geq \bar{k}$   $(5, \alpha, k)$  is feasible or infeasible according to  $\alpha$  being in  $J_F$  or  $J_I$ ,  
b)  $(5, \alpha, k)$  optimized by  $S^\alpha + kT^\alpha$  for all  $k \geq \bar{k}$  and  $\alpha$  in  $J_F$ , and  
c)  $v_k^\beta \leq v_k^\alpha$  for all  $k \geq \bar{k}$  and  $\alpha$  in  $J_F$ . Assume  $k \geq \bar{k}$ . Since  $x_1^\beta + kx_2^\beta$  is feasible to  $(3, k)$ ,  $v_k^\beta \geq v_k$ . Let  $x$  optimize  $(3, k)$ , then there is a Kuhn-Tucker point of form  $(u, v, w, x, y, z)$ . Therefore, for some  $\alpha$  in  $J_F$  we have  $(u, v, w, x, y, z)_\alpha = 0$  and  $v_k = \mathcal{Q}(x) = 1/2(x \cdot q - y \cdot a - kz) \geq v_k^\alpha \geq v_k^\beta$   $\square$

Hence  $v_k^\beta$  tends to  $V$  as  $k$  tends to infinity and the result is established;  $V = -\infty$  if  $C_1^\beta < 0$  or if  $C_1^\beta = 0$  and  $C_2^\beta < 0$ , otherwise,  $V = C_3^\beta$ .



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$$\begin{cases} V \Delta \inf: & x \cdot Qx = x \cdot q \\ & x \end{cases}$$

$$s/t: Ax \leq a \quad x \geq 0$$

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